

**WE CLAIM:**

1. A method of operating a mobile terminal during a synchronization session, the method comprising the steps of:
  - (a) identifying a plurality of data types, including a first data type and a second data type, to synchronize with the mobile terminal;
  - (b) identifying a first communication channel and a second communication channel;
  - (c) applying a rule base to assign the first data type to the first communication channel and the second data type to the second communication channel; and
  - (d) exchanging synchronization data of the first data type over the first communication channel and exchanging synchronization data of the second data type over the second communication channel.
2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first data type identifies public data and the second data type identifies private data.
3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein:
  - (a) the first data type identifies data having a first size; and
  - (b) the second data type identifies data having a second size smaller than the first size.
4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein:
  - (a) the first communication channel having a first bandwidth; and
  - (b) the second communication channel having a second bandwidth less than the first bandwidth.
5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein:
  - (a) the first communication channel having a first connection cost; and
  - (b) the second data communication channel having a second connection cost less than the first cost.



8. A method of operating a mobile terminal during a synchronization session, the mobile terminal for communicating with at least one target computer, the target computer for applying a rule base for assigning a first data type to a first communication channel and a second data type to a second communication channel, the method of operating the mobile terminal comprising the steps of:

(a) identifying the first communication channel and the second communication channel;  
and

(b) exchanging synchronization data of the first data type over the first communication channel and exchanging synchronization data of the second data type over the second communication channel.

9. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the first data type identifies public data and the second data type identifies private data.

10. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein:

(a) the first data type identifies data having a first size; and

(b) the second data type identifies data having a second size smaller than the first size.

11. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein:

(a) the first communication channel having a first bandwidth; and

(b) the second communication channel having a second bandwidth less than the first bandwidth.

12. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein:

(a) the first communication channel having a first connection cost; and

(b) the second data communication channel having a second connection cost less than the first cost.

13. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein:

- (a) the first communication channel comprises a long-range cellular provider network; and  
(b) the second communication channel comprises a short-range wireless access point.

14. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the step of exchanging synchronization data over the first communication channel is substantially concurrent with the step of exchanging synchronization data over the second communication channel.

15. The method as recited in claim 8, wherein the mobile terminal for communicating with a first target computer over the first communication channel and for communicating with a second target computer over the second communication channel, further comprising the step of transmitting an identifier to the first target computer for identifying the second target computer.

- 1 16. A method of operating a first target computer to synchronize a mobile terminal over a first  
2 communication channel and over a second communication channel during a  
3 synchronization session, the mobile terminal for identifying the first communication  
4 channel and the second communication channel, the method of operating the first target  
5 computer comprising the steps of:  
6 (a) identifying a plurality of data types, including a first data type and a second data type,  
7 to synchronize with the mobile terminal; and  
8 (b) applying a rule base to assign the first data type to the first communication channel and  
9 the second data type to the second communication channel.
- 1 17. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein the first data type identifies public data and the  
2 second data type identifies private data.
- 1 18. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein:  
2 (a) the first data type identifies data having a first size; and  
3 (b) the second data type identifies data having a second size smaller than the first size.
- 1 19. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein:  
2 (a) the first communication channel having a first bandwidth; and  
3 (b) the second communication channel having a second bandwidth less than the first  
4 bandwidth.
- 1 20. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein:  
2 (a) the first communication channel having a first connection cost; and  
3 (b) the second data communication channel having a second connection cost less than the  
4 first cost.
- 1 21. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein:  
2 (a) the second communication channel comprises a long-range cellular provider network;

3 and

4 (b) the second communication channel comprises a short-range wireless access point..

1 22. The method as recited in claim 16, wherein synchronization data is exchanged over the  
2 first communication channel substantially concurrent with exchanging synchronization  
3 data over the second communication channel.

1 23. The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising the steps of:

2 (a) receiving from the mobile terminal an identifier identifying a second target computer  
3 available for synchronizing the mobile terminal;

4 (b) configuring the first target computer to exchange synchronization data with the mobile  
terminal over the first communication channel; and

(c) configuring the second target computer to exchange synchronization data with the  
mobile terminal over the second communication channel.

24. A mobile terminal comprising:

(a) a screen;

(b) a local memory; and

(c) a terminal controller for synchronizing the mobile terminal during a synchronization session by:

identifying a plurality of data types, including a first data type and a second data type, to synchronize with the mobile terminal;

identifying a first communication channel and a second communication channel;

applying a rule base to assign the first data type to the first communication channel and the second data type to the second communication channel; and

exchanging synchronization data of the first data type over the first communication channel and exchanging synchronization data of the second data type over the second communication channel.

25. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 24, wherein the first data type identifies public data and the second data type identifies private data.

26. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 24, wherein:

(a) the first data type identifies data having a first size; and

(b) the second data type identifies data having a second size smaller than the first size.

27. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 24, wherein:

(a) the first communication channel having a first bandwidth; and

(b) the second communication channel having a second bandwidth less than the first bandwidth.

28. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 24, wherein:

(a) the first communication channel having a first connection cost; and

(b) the second data communication channel having a second connection cost less than the

4 first cost.

1 29. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 24, wherein:

2 (a) the first communication channel comprises a long-range cellular provider network; and

3 (b) the second communication channel comprises a short-range wireless access point.

1 30. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 24, wherein synchronization data is exchanged

2 over the first communication channel substantially concurrent with exchanging

3 synchronization data over the second communication channel.

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- 1 31. A mobile terminal for communicating with at least one target computer, the target  
2 computer for applying a rule base for assigning a first data type to a first communication  
3 channel and a second data type to a second communication channel, the mobile terminal  
4 comprising:  
5 (a) a screen;  
6 (b) a local memory; and  
7 (c) a terminal controller for synchronizing the mobile terminal during a synchronization  
8 session by:  
9 identifying the first communication channel and the second communication channel;  
10 and  
exchanging synchronization data of the first data type over the first communication  
channel and exchanging synchronization data of the second data type over the  
second communication channel.
32. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 31, wherein the first data type identifies public data  
and the second data type identifies private data.
33. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 31, wherein:  
(a) the first data type identifies data having a first size; and  
(b) the second data type identifies data having a second size smaller than the first size.
34. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 31, wherein:  
(a) the first communication channel having a first bandwidth; and  
(b) the second communication channel having a second bandwidth less than the first  
bandwidth.
35. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 31, wherein:  
(a) the first communication channel having a first connection cost; and  
(b) the second data communication channel having a second connection cost less than the

4 first cost.

1 36. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 31, wherein:

2 (a) the first communication channel comprises a long-range cellular provider network; and

3 (b) the second communication channel comprises a short-range wireless access point.

1 37. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 31, wherein the synchronization data is exchanged

2 over the first communication channel substantially concurrent with exchanging

3 synchronization data over the second communication channel.

1 38. The mobile terminal as recited in claim 31, wherein:

(a) the mobile terminal for communicating with a first target computer over the first  
communication channel and for communicating with a second target computer over  
the second communication channel; and

(b) the terminal controller transmits an identifier to the first target computer for identifying  
the second target computer.

- 1 39. A first target computer for synchronizing a mobile terminal over a first communication  
2 channel and over a second communication channel during a synchronization session, the  
3 mobile terminal for identifying the first communication channel and the second  
4 communication channel, the target computer comprising:  
5 (a) a local memory; and  
6 (b) a controller for:  
7 identifying a plurality of data types, including a first data type and a second data type,  
8 to synchronize with the mobile terminal; and  
9 applying a rule base to assign the first data type to the first communication channel and  
10 the second data type to the second communication channel.
- 11 40. The first target computer as recited in claim 39, wherein the first data type identifies public  
12 data and the second data type identifies private data.
- 13 41. The first target computer as recited in claim 39, wherein:  
14 (a) the first data type identifies data having a first size; and  
15 (b) the second data type identifies data having a second size smaller than the first size.
- 16 42. The first target computer as recited in claim 39, wherein:  
17 (a) the first communication channel having a first bandwidth; and  
18 (b) the second communication channel having a second bandwidth less than the first  
19 bandwidth.
- 20 43. The first target computer as recited in claim 39, wherein:  
21 (a) the first communication channel having a first connection cost; and  
22 (b) the second data communication channel having a second connection cost less than the  
23 first cost.
- 24 44. The first target computer as recited in claim 39, wherein:

- (a) the first communication channel comprises a long-range cellular provider network; and
- (b) the second communication channel comprises a short-range wireless access point.

45. The first target computer as recited in claim 39, wherein synchronization data is exchanged over the first communication channel substantially concurrent with exchanging synchronization data over the second communication channel.

46. The first target computer as recited in claim 39, wherein:

- (a) the first target computer receives from the mobile terminal an identifier identifying a second target computer available for synchronizing the mobile terminal;
- (b) the first target computer is configured to exchange synchronization data with the mobile terminal over the first communication channel; and
- (c) the second target computer is configured to exchange synchronization data with the mobile terminal over the second communication channel.

1 47. A computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium for use in a  
2 mobile terminal, the computer program for synchronizing the mobile terminal during a  
3 synchronization session, the computer program comprising code segments,:  
4 (a) identifying a plurality of data types, including a first data type and a second data type,  
5 to synchronize with the mobile terminal;  
6 (b) identifying a first communication channel and a second communication channel;  
7 (c) applying a rule base to assign the first data type to the first communication channel and  
8 the second data type to the second communication channel; and  
9 (d) exchanging synchronization data of the first data type over the first communication  
10 channel and exchanging synchronization data of the second data type over the second  
communication channel.

1 48. A computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium for use in a  
2 mobile terminal, the computer program for synchronizing the mobile terminal during a  
3 synchronization session, the mobile terminal for communicating with at least one target  
4 computer, the target computer for applying a rule base for assigning a first data type to a  
5 first communication channel and a second data type to a second communication channel,  
6 the computer program comprising code segments for:  
7 (a) identifying the first communication channel and the second communication channel;  
8 and  
9 (b) exchanging synchronization data of the first data type over the first communication  
10 channel and exchanging synchronization data of the second data type over the second  
communication channel.

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1 49. A computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium for use in a target  
2 computer, the target computer for synchronizing a mobile terminal over a first  
3 communication channel and over a second communication channel during a  
4 synchronization session, the mobile terminal for identifying the first communication  
5 channel and the second communication channel, the computer program comprising code  
6 segments for:

- 7 (a) identifying a plurality of data types, including a first data type and a second data type,  
8 to synchronize with the mobile terminal; and  
9 (b) applying a rule base to assign the first data type to the first communication channel and  
10 the second data type to the second communication channel.

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